



Dear Citizens,

This year, Black History Month comes at a historic moment for Baltimore. For the first time in the city's history, the four highest offices are held by African American women. City Council President Stephanie Rawlings Blake, Comptroller Joan Pratt, State's Attorney Patricia Jessamy and I are working together to make Baltimore cleaner, greener, safer and healthier. All month long, we all have had the opportunity to reflect on the sacrifices and achievements of African Americans who paved the way for our unique accomplishment.

But this month is not restricted to reflections about elected officials or figures from the past. We must also take the time to recognize the prominent role models in our community such as Edmondson-Westside High School Football Coach Dante Jones, local jazz legend Ruby Glover, and Judge George Levi Russell, II. We are privileged to live in a city with individuals whose excellence and triumphs inspire us, our children and generations to come.

This weekend I am honored to be hosting my annual "Celebration of African American Art & Culture" in honor of Black History Month. This event brings together local African American performing groups and there are always great items for sale and delicious food.

Attendees will see performances from the Elifrey Caribbean Dancers, P.U.S.H featuring Brook Reed, The Swingsations, also special guests Lo Lo from Quiet Fire 95.9 FM and Phillip Merrill, and much more.

The celebration takes place on tomorrow, Saturday, February 24th from 2:00 to 6:00 pm at the Ivy Family Support Center at 3515 Dolfield Avenue (off the 3600 block of West Coldspring Lane.) I look forward to sharing the richness of African American culture and arts with you.

As always, I am interested in what you think about our plan to make our city a more attractive place to LIVE, LEARN, PLAY and EARN. Please [email me](#) your comments or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Sheila Dixon
Mayor
Baltimore

To find more events in your community, visit Baltimore's Department of Recreation and Parks [February Events Calendar](#).

Saturday Stories at the Top

February 24, 2007

11:00 am

Observation Level
World Trade Center
401 East Pratt Street
27th Floor

This year, Top of the World Observation Level celebrates Black History Month in a unique way, with Saturday Stories at the Top. Each Saturday in February, storytellers teach children of the African and African American culture through creative, imaginative, and exciting tales, at 11a.m. The event is presented by Mayor Sheila Dixon and Top of the World Observation Level.

Admission Fee: \$5 for adults \$4 for seniors and \$3 for children. Advance group rates are available.

Phone : 410-837-8439

For registrations or questions please click [here](#).

Variety Children's Theater and Dance

February 24, 2007

10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Farring-Baybrook Recreation Center
4501 Farring Court
Baltimore, MD 21225
(410) 396-1550

This unique program offers acting and dancing instruction to children with and without disabilities. It is very interactive and culminates with a play and dance recital. Recommended for ages 8–18. This event is FREE and open to the public. Registration is required and ongoing.

Buds and Blooms at the Conservatory

March 1, 2007

10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Howard Peters Rawlings Conservatory and Botanic Gardens of Baltimore
3100 Swan Drive in Druid Hill Park
Baltimore, MD 21217

(410) 396- 0008

Visit the Howard Peters Rawlings Conservatory and view this month's buds and blooms, including Red Passion Flowers, Paper Flowers, Crimson Bottlebrush, Camellias, Tea Trees, Medicinal Aloe, Rose Cactus, Giant Birds of Paradise, Red Velvet Gingers, European Fan Palm, and Crown of Thorns. Admission is FREE.

Movie Night and Teen Night In

March 2, 2007

6:00 pm – 1:00 am

Lakeland Recreation Center
2921 Stranden Road
Baltimore, MD 21230
(410) 396-0091

Members of the Lakeland Youth Advisory Council will take a trip to Marley Station's movie theater (6 – 10 p.m.), and then join their peers for a night of music, game room activities and a basketball tournament. Snacks will be served and everyone is invited. For admission and other associated fees, please contact the center.

Blue Sky Puppet Show

March 2, 2007

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Parkview Recreation Center
2610 Francis St.
Baltimore, MD 21217
(443) 984-2627

Participants of the after-school program will see "Bananas", a puppet show teaching fitness, exercise and nutrition.

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